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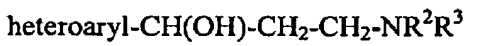
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (VI),



$$\text{heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NR}^2\text{R}^3 \qquad \text{(VI)}$$

in which

heteroaryl is a monocyclic ~~or bicyclic~~ aromatic radical having a total of ~~from~~ 6 ~~to 10~~ ring atoms, where ~~none,~~ one or two ring atoms, selected from the group oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen, is present ~~per cycle and one or two is present in the entire aromatic radical~~, and where the monocyclic ~~or bicyclic~~ aromatic radical is optionally substituted, once, twice or three times, by radicals which are selected, in each case independently of each other, from the group hydroxyl, C_1-C_8-alkyl, cyano, COOH, COOM, where M is an alkali metal ion or a half equivalent of an alkaline earth metal ion, COO-(C_1-C_4-alkyl), O-(C_1-C_4-alkyl), N(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_2$, NH-(C_1-C_4-alkyl), NO_2, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_1-C_4-fluoroalkyl, $CONH_2$ and CONH-(C_1-C_4-alkyl), and

R^2 and R^3 are, in each case independently of each other, hydrogen, C_1-C_8-alkyl, C_4-C_{14}-aryl or C_5-C_{15}-arylalkyl, or the two radicals R^2 and R^3 are together C_3-C_{12}-alkylene,

comprising:

a) ~~converting~~ reducing compounds of the formula (I)

heteroaryl-CO-CH_2W (I),

in which

heteroaryl is defined as in formula (IV), and

W is $C(O)YR^1_n$, where Y is = oxygen and n is = 1 or Y is nitrogen and n is = 2, or

W is CN, and

R^1 are, in each case independently of each other, hydrogen, C_1-C_8-alkyl, C_4-C_{10}-aryl or C_5-C_{11}-arylalkyl or, when Y is nitrogen, the two radicals R^1 are together C_3-C_5 alkylene,

by contacting said compounds of the formula (I) with microorganisms and/or cell preparations thereof;

in the presence of water having a pH range of from 3 to 11, based on 25°C;

~~into~~ to yield enantiomer-enriched compound of formula (II),

~~heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH_2-CO-CH_2W (II)~~

heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH_2W (II)

where, in each case,

heteroaryl and W have the meanings mentioned under formula (I), and

b) performing one of the following manipulations,

i) when W is $C(O)YR^1_n$ where Y is ~~nitrogen, n = 2~~ oxygen, n = 1 and R^1 has the meanings mentioned in formula (I),

reacting the enantiomer-enriched compounds of formula (II) with amines of the formula (III)

HNR^2R^3 (III)

in which R^2 and R^3 have the meaning mentioned under formula (VI), to give enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV),

heteroaryl-CH(OH)-CH_2-CO-NR^2R^3 (IV)

in which heteroaryl, R^2 and R^3 have the previously mentioned meanings, or

ii) when W is $CON(R^1)_2$ and the R^1 radicals are in each case, independently of each other, hydrogen, C_1-C_8-alkyl, C_4-C_{10}-aryl or C_5-C_{11}-arylalkyl, or the two R^1 radicals are together C_3-C_5-alkylene,

~~converting~~ reacting the enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (II) ~~by reacting~~ with amines of the formula (III)~~, into~~ to yield enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV), and

iv) when W is CN, ~~converting~~ aminolyizing/hydrolyzing the compounds of the formula (II) directly~~, by aminolysis/hydrolysis, into~~ to yield compounds of the formula (IV), or ~~converting~~ initially ~~by hydrolysis, partial hydrolysis or mixed alcoholysis/hydrolysis, into~~ hydrolyzing, partially hydrolyzing or both alcoholyzing/hydrolyzing the compounds of formula (II) to yield compounds of the formula (V)

heteroaryl-$CH(OH)$-CH_2-CO-R^4 (V)

in which heteroaryl has the meaning given under formula (I)

and R^4 is OR^1 or NH_2, where R^1 has the abovementioned meaning, and

~~converting by amidation into~~ amidating the compound of formula (V) to yield enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV), and

c) ~~converting~~ reducing the enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (IV) ~~by reduction, into~~ to yield enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (VI) having the abovementioned meaning.

11. (Previously Presented) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that, in the formulae (III), (IV) and (VI), R^2 and R^3 are, in each case, independently selected from~~,~~ hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, phenyl or benzyl.

12. (Original) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that compounds of the formula (I) in which W is not CN are obtained by reacting compounds of the formula (VII)

heteroaryl-CO-CH_3 (VII)

in which heteroaryl has the meaning mentioned under formula (I),

with compounds of the formula (VIII),

R^1-O-W (VIII)

in which

R^1 and W have the same meanings as those which were given under the formula (I), with W not being CN, in the presence of a base.

13. (Original) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that the reduction of compounds of the formula (VI) is effected using complex boron hydrides or aluminium hydrides.

14. (Original) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that (1S)-3-(methylamino)-1-(2-thiophenyl)-1-propanol, (1R)-3-(methylamino)-1-(2-thiophenyl)-1-propanol, (1S)-3-(dimethylamino)-1-(2-thiophenyl)-1-propanol or (1R)-3-(dimethylamino)-1-(2-thiophenyl)-1-propanol is prepared.

15. (Original) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that in a further step d),

the enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (VI) are reacted, in the presence of base, with compounds of the formula (XI)

$$R^6\text{-Hal} \qquad (XI)$$

in which

R^6 is phenyl or naphthyl which is optionally substituted, once or more than once, by substituents which are selected, in each case independently of each other, from the group cyano, CO-(C_1-C_{12}-alkyl), O-(C_1-C_{12}-alkyl), (C_1-C_{12}-alkyl), fluorine, chlorine, bromine and C_1-C_{12}-fluoroalkyl, and

Hal is fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine,

to give enantiomer-enriched compounds of the formula (X),

$$\text{heteroaryl-CH(OR}^6\text{)-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3 \qquad (X)$$

in which heteroaryl, R^2 and R^3 have the meaning given under formula (I) and R^6 has the meaning given under formula (XI).

16. (Original) Process according to Claim 15, characterized in that (S)-N-methyl-3-(1-naphthalenyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)propylamine and (R)-N-methyl-3-(1-naphthalenyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)propylamine, or their ammonium salts, are prepared.

17.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that W is $C(O)YR^1_n$, where Y is = oxygen and n is = 1 or Y is nitrogen and n is = 2.

20. (Previously Presented) Process according to Claim 10, characterized in that W is CN.

21. (New) Process according to Claim 10, wherein the microorganisms are wild-type or transformed strains of bacteria, yeast or fungi.

22. (New) Process according to Claim 10, wherein the microorganism are yeasts or fungi.

23. (New) Process according to Claim 10, wherein the microorganism are selected from the group consisting of *Saccharomyces, Geotrichum, Candida, Pichia, Hansenula, Yarrowia, Rhizopus, Mortierella, Mucor, Sporotrichum, Rhodotorula, Trichoderma, Aspergillus, Penicillium, Pullaria, Cunninghamella and Curvularia.*

24. (New) Process according to Claim 10, wherein the microorganism are *Saccharomyces cereviseae* or *Geotrichum candidum.*